5

10

CLAIMS

- A method for identifying an antibody molecule that binds to an unmasked epitope on a preselected antigen, having a preselected first epitope and at least one additional epitope, comprising the steps of:
 - contacting the preselected antigen having the preselected first epitope, with a first antibody molecule, under conditions which allow the first epitope of the antigen to bind to the first antibody molecule and form an immunocomplex;
 - contacting a second antibody molecule with the immunocomplex such that the second antibody molecule binds to a second, unmasked epitope on the antigen; and
 - c) removing the second antibody molecule bound to the second epitope.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first antibody molecule is bound to a solid support.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first antibody is an Fv or an Fab fragment.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first antibody molecule is a monoclonal antibody molecule.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the first antibody molecule is an antiglycoprotein D antibody.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the preselected antigen is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial, viral, parasitic, fungal, tumor and self-antigen.

5

- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the viral antigen is selected from the group of viruses consisting of hepatitis B virus (HBV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), influenza A virus, Epstein Barr virus (EBV), herpes simplex virus (HSV), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), human cytomegalovirus (HCMV), varicella zoster virus (VZV), and measles virus.
- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the viral antigen is HSV glycoprotein D.
- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the second antibody is an Fv or an Fab fragment.
- 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the first epitope is a non-neutralizing epitope.
- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the second epitope is a neutralizing epitope.
- 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the second antibody is in a combinatorial library.
- 13. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of isolating the second antibody molecule.
- 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of sequencing the nucleic acid of the second antibody molecule.
- 15. An antibody molecule identified by the method of claim 1.

16. The antibody molecule of claim 15, wherein the antibody molecule has the specificity of an antibody molecule produced by *E. coli* ATCC 69522.

į